

Myzantha obscura. Dusky Miner.—The Miner is very local in its distribution, and appears to restrict itself to certain areas, but it is not a rare bird in the district. Breeding months, September to November.

Anthochaera carunculata. Red Wattle-Bird.—Some of these birds are found in the district throughout the year, but the number is considerably augmented each spring when the Banksias and Eucalypts are in bloom. Breeds from August to November.

Anthus australis. Australian Pipit.—The Pipit is one of the commonest birds, and is one of the few birds which benefits rather than otherwise by the spread of agriculture.

Taniopygia castanotis. Zebra Finch.—This Finch is with us for the breeding season, but is nomadic in its habits during the remainder of the year. Breeds from July to December.

Corvus coronoides. Australian Raven.—Very common, numbers being resident in the district, but others come and go according to the food supply. Breeds from July to November.

Corvus cecilæ. Australian Crow.—I have seen several birds which I ascribed to this species, but have not been able to obtain definite proof.

Cracticus torquatus. Grey Butcher-Bird.—A common resident. Breeds from October to December.

Gymnorhina dorsalis. Western Magpie.—The Magpie is one of the commonest birds, and may be heard carolling on moonlight nights far into the night. Breeds from August to December.

Extension of the Known Range of the Southern Chowchilla South of Sydney.—On May 3, 1931, we had the privilege of identifying a pair of Southern Chowchillas or Log-runners (*Orthonyx temmincki*), on the slopes of Cambe-warra Mountain, South Coast, N.S.W. We were rambling in a softwood brush, to-day still in its virgin state, when one of us started up a small brown bird, which made a great whirr with its wings as it rose from the ground and flew a few yards. It then, accompanied by a second bird, ran rapidly towards some fallen branches lying against a log. The observer could see just enough of them to realise that the birds were new to him, and resembled a miniature Quail-Thrush (*Cinclosoma*) more than any other bird that he was acquainted with.

In the hope of gaining a good look we both followed them. This would not have been easy but for the whirr of their wings as they occasionally flew a few yards. They were very shy and the attention we paid them did not tend to quieten them. First they hid in some leaves and debris and later in the leaves and branches of a fallen tree.

After having seen enough of them almost to convince ourselves that they were Chowchillas—a fact which greatly pleased us, partly because the species was new to us and partly because we knew that it was not known to extend so far south of Sydney, we left them in peace.

On reaching home we turned to our not too plentiful literature on the Chowchilla, thereby converting our confidence into certainty. The mottled crown, the spotted

brown back (these spots were in rows, at least across the forepart of the wings), the brown sides, the dark brown tail fan-shaped at the end, the white or pale gray forehead and eyebrow, and the throat, white in one bird and rufous in the other, surrounded on the sides of the neck by a black collar, could, we believe, apply to no other bird than the Chowchilla. The only note we heard from the birds was short and loud, sometimes repeated twice in rapid succession. The wings were small and rounded and made a quail-like whirr during flight, while the flight was short and weak. The birds were seven or eight inches in length.

As the distribution of the Southern Chowchilla was, we believe, previously not known to extend any farther south than Macquarie Pass (see editorial footnote, *The Emu*, Vol. XXVII, page 49), our record will extend the known range of the species towards the south, an additional thirty or forty miles, terminating within easy sight of the Shoalhaven River and the town of Nowra.—A. J. ELLIOTT, R.A.O.U., and A. O. ELLIOTT, R.A.O.U., Cambewarra, N.S.W.

The Top-Knot Pigeon.—During a recent week-end spent on the Bunya Mountains I was very interested to observe large numbers of a silvery-grey Pigeon flying backwards and forwards across the valleys and perching on the tall Bunya pine trees. I was told that they were known as "Flock" Pigeons. Later on a resident of the locality informed me that the birds, called by him Moreton Bay Pigeons, originally only visited the Bunyas when the "Pigeon berries" (lilly pilly berries) were ripe, but found conditions so much to their liking that they stayed and bred there eventually. My informant offered to shoot me a bird to make identification certain—but through my field glasses I was able to make certain that the bird was *Lopholaimus antarcticus*. The Bunya Mountains are two hundred miles inland—the Check-list gives the birds' range as coastal. I do not know the bird except for occasional specimens in Moreton Bay.—L. M. MAYO, R.A.O.U., Brisbane.

Whistling Eagle's Prey.—Though the Whistling Eagle (*Haliastur sphenurus*) is usually a carrion eater, I have seen one with live birds on two occasions. A Goshawk (*Astur fasciatus*), closely followed by a Whistling Eagle, swooped at a Willie Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*), forcing the latter to the ground, where it was pounced on and carried off by the Whistling Eagle. On another occasion there was a great commotion amongst the Rosellas, and presently a Whistling Eagle came along carrying a screeching Parrot, while several Parrots flew alongside, adding to the din.—E. L. HYEM, R.A.O.U., Barrington, N.S.W.